

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 03122 171902Z

51

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 GAO-03 ABF-01 AGR-20

AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 A-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 IOE-00 SSO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5408

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FAO

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, GAO, UY

SUBJ: GAO REVIEW OF US PARTICIPATION IN MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS IN URUGUAY

REF: STATE 201237

1. EMBASSY CONSIDERS THE PROPOSED GAO VISIT TO URUGUAY
POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE. BUT WE BELIEVE IT CAN BE CARRIED OUT
WITHOUT HARM TO US INTERESTS IF PROPER GROUNDWORK IS LAID AND
IF ITS SCOPE REMAINS WITHIN GAO'S MANDATE AS SPELLED OUT IN
REFTEL PARAGRAPH 3.

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PAGE 02 MONTEV 03122 171902Z

2. AS REFTTEL STATES IN PARAGRAPH 3, IT IS "WITHIN GAO'S

MANDATE TO EXAMINE MANAGEMENT OF US INTERESTS IN UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AS WELL AS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL PROGRAMS". AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, HOWEVER, IT IS OBVIOUSLY DIFFICULT TO SEPARATE "US INTERESTS IN UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" FROM THE TOTALITY OF THOSE PROGRAMS, WHEN IT COMES TO EXAMINING THEIR MANAGEMENT. WE NOTE ALSO THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT TO URUGUAY AS INDICATED IN THE QUOTATION FROM GAO'S LETTER CONTAINED IN REFTEL PARAGRAPH 2 GOES FAR BEYOND THE STATEMENT QUOTED FROM PARAGRAPH 3 ABOUT WHAT IS WITHIN GAO'S MANDATE.

3. EMB/USAID OFFICERS HAVE INFORMALLY SOUNDED OUT GOU FONOFF OFFICIAL AND DIRECTOR OF PLANNING OFFICE, EXPLAINING GAO CONCERNS AS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL PARA 5. NEITHER OFFICIAL ANTICIPATED ANY PROBLEM WITH GAO VISIT ON THOSE TERMS.

4. SENSITIVITY TO GAO VISIT PROBABLY HIGHER IN UNDP MISSION HERE THAN WITHIN GOU ECONOMIC TEAM. UN RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN URUGUAY (AT PRESENT ABSENT FROM MONTEVIDEO) IS NEWLY APPOINTED ARGENTINE WHO MAY OR MAY NOT BE RECEPTIVE TO GAO VISIT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTS INFORMAL APPROACH BE MADE TO UNDP ADMINISTRATOR TO ASK RESREP TO COOPERATE. AFTER WE ARE INFORMED THAT THIS REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE, EMB/USAID CONTACTS WILL BE GLAD TO APPROACH RESREP DIRECTLY TO FURTHER COORDINATE VISIT IN ADVANCE OF TEAM'S ARRIVAL. PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED OF STEPS DEPARTMENT TAKES IN PREPARATION OF THIS VISIT AS WELL AS TRAVEL PLANS OF VISITORS THEMSELVES. DEPARTMENT ALSO MAY WISH ASK UNESCO TO INFORM ITS REGIONAL OFFICE HERE OF VISIT WITH SIMILAR REQUEST FOR COOPERATION.

6. FINALLY, EMB. WISHES TO EMPHASIZE THAT, TO AVOID INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE ANY ADVERSE REACTION THAT GAO VISIT HERE MIGHT AROUSE, LIMITATIONS SPELLED OUT IN REFTEL PARA 5 SHOULD BE OBSERVED. WITHIN THOSE LIMITATIONS, EMB/USAID OFFER FULLEST COOPERATION.
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